OUTBREAK

NOTES

- 1. Heinz von Lichem, Krieg in den Alpen 1915-1918 (Augsburg, 1993), vol. 3, p. 179 ff.
- 2. The French had money to spare partly because, almost alone in Europe at the time, their population hardly rose between 1870 and 1914, and might-have-been parents saved with ferocity.
- 3. It was of course true that imperialism enriched the imperialists and their professorial hangers-on, but the costs of it were prodigious, and Weber himself learned as much. After his inaugural lecture, he became a national hero, and attracted the attentions of a very clever woman, who led him into a world of which he had had no knowledge. He was, for much of the time, a nervous wreck, and seems thereby to have learned that professor-doctors do not really have a monopoly of wisdom. He grew up. In 1914, almost all of the thousand-plus great names in German cultural life signed a 'petition of the Intellectuals' that argued on Weber-inaugural lines. Weber became a medical assistant on the western front. See Joachim Radkau, Max Weber: Die Leidenschaft des Denkens (Munich, 2005), pp. 215–33 and p. 548ff.
- 4. Hitler even took the idea of having a party uniform of special shirts from Mussolini, who had chosen black. He hit upon brown ones, by accident, when a job lot of jungle uniforms turned up on the market. They had been intended for the German army in East Africa and were stored in south-eastern Turkey, where they were acquired by an enterprising Austrian.
- 5. Riezler's biography is one of several Central European descants upon the history of the century. He married the daughter of the painter Max Liebermann, head (until Hitler)

WORLD WAR ONE

of the Prussian Academy of Sciences. Riezler was a considerable philosopher (and wrote learnedly on Parmenides). He entered the German Foreign Office, in the press department, and became private secretary to Bethmann Hollweg, with whom he spent a great deal of time. When in 1917 Bethmann Hollweg fell from office, Riezler became a diplomat, arranging the arrival of Lenin in Stockholm. Then, after some rearrangement, he became associated with the Social Democrats who ran Germany in the twenties - private secretary to the Social Democrat president, Ebert - but he moved left and became professor at the neo-Marxist Frankfurt School. In 1933, he moved to the USA, to the University of Chicago, where he used his influence to defeat the candidacy for professorship of Karl Popper, then an exile (from Austria) in New Zealand, In 1945, Leo Szilard, the nuclear physicist, wanted direct contact with President Roosevelt in order to protest about the dropping of the atom bomb. He needed an introduction, and enlisted Albert Einstein, who obliged, and secured him an interview with Eleanor Roosevelt. Roosevelt himself then died, and Einstein's letter of introduction was addressed instead to Roosevelt's stand-in, Truman, President Truman set up a commission to judge the morality of dropping it. Its president? Kurt Riezler. (He advised in favour.)